

Purdue University
Purdue e-Pubs

Proceedings of the IATUL Conferences

2008 IATUL Proceedings

Kiwi Advanced Research and Education Network (KAREN): opportunities and challenges

Sam Searle

Victoria University of Wellington

Sam Searle, "Kiwi Advanced Research and Education Network (KAREN): opportunities and challenges." *Proceedings of the IATUL Conferences*. Paper 10.

<http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/iatul/2008/papers/10>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

Kiwi Advanced Research and Education Network (KAREN): opportunities and challenges

Sam Searle, Victoria University of Wellington

Email: sam.searle@vuw.ac.nz

The Kiwi Advanced Research and Education Network (KAREN) was launched in 2006. KAREN's founding members included all New Zealand's universities and Crown Research Institutes, as well as the National Library. Membership is growing, and in future is likely to include a wider range of organisations, including schools, polytechnics, and libraries.

KAREN will potentially contribute to New Zealand's economic development, underpin richer learning opportunities, and make it easier to showcase NZ research and digital content. For researchers, KAREN can facilitate national and international collaborations, speed up large data transfers, and enable shared access to expensive scientific equipment and high performance computing resources.

For the promise of KAREN to be realised, members must address enormous technical, professional and organisational issues. The *Advanced Network Capability Building Roadmap 2007-2009* provides a national framework for increasing KAREN uptake, particularly through the development of e-research. The *Roadmap* outlines an ambitious programme of activities across three areas:

1. Workforce capability: building skills and knowledge
2. Technological capability: making sure that the right infrastructure and tools are available
3. Sector capability: developing policy frameworks, funding mechanisms and stakeholder relationships that encourage uptake and e-research development.

This paper highlights some KAREN success stories and discusses issues and constraints that KAREN members need to address in the future.